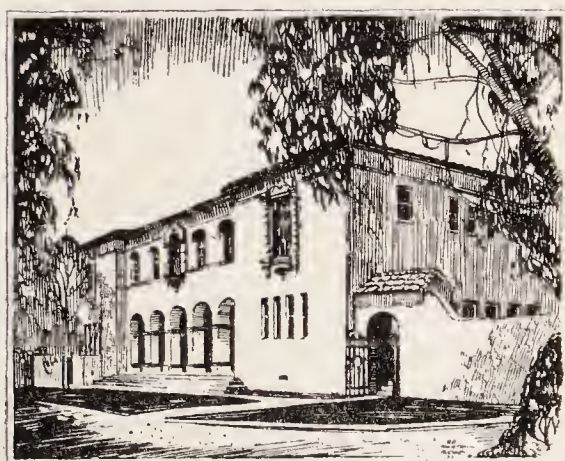


Zoological Society of San Diego

A LIST of the AMPHIBIANS and REPTILES
of
SAN DIEGO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

By L. M. KLAUBER

Second Edition



ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF SAN DIEGO

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SECOND EDITION

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A. NEWTS AND SALAMANDERS

1. Pacific Coast Newt **Triturus torosus** (Eschscholtz)
Common in Boulder and Cedar Creeks. Also occurs near De Luz.
2. Southern Slender Salamander **Batrachoseps attenuatus leucopus** (Dunn)
Well distributed from the ocean to the mountains. Common in city gardens under stones and boards.
3. Yellow-spotted Salamander **Ensatina croceater** (Cope)
Moderately rare. Recorded from several mountain localities in leaf mold or under fallen logs.
4. Orange Salamander **Ensatina eschscholtzii** Gray
Has been taken at Sequoia mine near Dulzura.
5. Arboreal Salamander **Aneides lugubris lugubris** (Hallowell)
Rare. Recorded from several coast and foothill points.

B. FROGS AND TOADS

1. Western Spadefoot Toad **Scaphiopus hammondi** Baird
Has been taken in a number of localities from the ocean to the mountains. Usually out during rain storms.
2. California Toad **Bufo boreas halophilus** (Baird and Girard)
Common from the ocean to the mountains and in oases in the desert foothills. The adults are active only at night as is the case with most toads.
3. Arroyo Toad **Bufo californicus** (Camp)
Moderately common in inland valleys and foothills.
4. Spotted Toad **Bufo punctatus** Baird and Girard
Rare in desert slope oases.
5. Canyon Tree-frog **Hyla arenicolor** Cope
Moderately common in rocky canyons from the foothills to the desert. Usually found on boulder faces.
6. Pacific Tree-frog **Hyla regilla** Baird and Girard
Common from the ocean to the desert in moist localities.
7. California Red-legged Frog **Rana aurora draytonii** (Baird and Girard)
Moderately common in streams and ponds from the ocean to the mountains.
8. Sierra Madre Yellow-legged Frog **Rana boylii muscosa** Camp
Has been found in Doane Valley on Palomar Mountain and is to be expected in other mountain streams.

C. LIZARDS

1. Tubercular Gecko **Phyllodactylus tuberculosus** Wiegmann
Moderately rare in rocky areas on the desert slope. Nocturnal.
2. Banded Gecko **Coleonyx variegatus** (Baird)
Occasional from the ocean to the desert. Nocturnal.
3. Northern Crested Lizard **Dipsosaurus dorsalis dorsalis** (Baird and Girard)
Common on the desert in sandy areas.
4. Collared Lizard **Crotaphytus collaris** (Say)
Moderately common on the tumbled boulders of the desert slope.
5. Leopard Lizard **Crotaphytus wislizenii** Baird and Girard
Moderately common on the desert slope and desert in sandy areas. Occasional in the western foothills.
6. Chuckwalla **Sauromalus obesus** (Baird)
Moderately rare on the boulder strewn desert foothills.
7. Desert Gridiron-tailed Lizard **Callisaurus ventralis gabbii** Cope
Quite common from the desert foothills to the desert. A lizard of the sandy washes.
8. Long-tailed Swift **Uta graciosa** (Hallowell)
Moderately rare on the desert, usually on the stems of shrubs.
9. Mearns' Rock Lizard **Uta mearnsi** Stejneger
Common on the rough granite boulders of the desert slope.
10. Small-scaled Swift **Uta microscutata** Van Denburgh
Rather rare in rocky areas along the Mexican border. Also found in Borego Palm Canyon.
11. California Brown-shouldered Lizard **Uta stansburiana hesperis** Richardson
Exceedingly common from the ocean shore to the mountains, alike in rocky areas, chaparral or open fields.
12. Desert Brown-shouldered Lizard **Uta stansburiana stejnegeri** Schmidt
Common on the desert slope and desert.
13. Southern Mountain Swift **Sceloporus graciosus vandenburgianus** (Cope)
Moderately common on Laguna, Cuyamaca and Palomar Mountains above an altitude of 5000 feet.
14. Desert Scaly Lizard **Sceloporus magister** Hallowell
Moderately rare on the desert, usually in the branches of shrubs.
15. Western Fence Lizard **Sceloporus occidentalis biseriatus** (Hallowell)
Exceedingly common from the ocean to the desert slope on rocks, fences or trees.
16. Dusky Scaly Lizard **Sceloporus orcutti** Stejneger
Common among boulders in the foothills on both slopes.

17. Southern California Horned Toad **Phrynosoma blainvillii blainvillii** (Gray)
Common from the ocean to the mountains in fields or chaparral.
18. Flat-tailed Horned Toad **Phrynosoma m'callii** (Hallowell)
Moderately rare in sandy areas on the desert.
19. Desert Horned Toad **Phrynosoma platyrhinos** Girard
Moderately common on the desert slope and desert.
20. San Diegan Alligator Lizard **Gerrhonotus scincicauda webbii** (Baird)
Common from the ocean to the mountains, especially about human habitations.
21. Silvery Footless Lizard **Anniella pulchra** Gray
Subterranean. Moderately common throughout the county in sandy soil.
22. Spotted Night Lizard **Xantusia henshawi** Stejneger
Common under granite flakes on the foothills of both slopes. Nocturnal.
23. Desert Night Lizard **Xantusia vigilis** Baird
Rare on the desert slope and desert. Nocturnal.
24. California Orange-throated Lizard **Cnemidophorus hyperythrus beldingi** (Stejneger)
Moderately rare from the ocean to the mountains, usually in brush.
25. Desert Whiptail Lizard **Cnemidophorus tessellatus tessellatus** (Say)
Common on the desert in sandy, rockstrewn areas.
26. San Diegan Whiptail Lizard **Cnemidophorus tessellatus stejnegeri** (Van Denburgh)
Moderately common from the ocean to the desert in brushy areas.
27. Western Skink **Eumeces skiltonianus** (Baird and Girard)
Moderately common from the ocean to the desert slope, usually under rocks, leaves or debris.

D. SNAKES

1. Western Worm Snake **Siagonodon humilis** (Baird and Girard)
Subterranean. Rather rare from the ocean to the desert.
2. California Boa **Lichanura roseofusca** Cope
Moderately common from the ocean to the desert, usually in chaparral or amongst boulders.
3. San Diegan Ring-neck Snake **Diadophis amabilis similis** Blanchard
Moderately common from the ocean to the mountains, particularly in gardens or other moist areas.

4. Western Yellow-bellied Racer **Coluber constrictor mormon** (Baird and Girard)
Rare from the ocean to the desert foothills. A snake of the open fields.
5. Red Racer **Masticophis flagellum frenatus** (Stejneger)
Moderately common from the ocean to the desert in fields or brush.
6. Black Whip Snake **Masticophis flagellum piceus** (Cope)
A single specimen has been taken in the vicinity of Dulzura.
7. California Striped Racer **Masticophis lateralis** (Hallowell)
Common from the ocean to the mountains, especially in chaparral.
8. Western Patch-nosed Snake **Salvadora grahamiae hexalepis** (Cope)
Moderately rare from the ocean to the desert.
9. Lower California Leaf-nosed Snake **Phyllorhynchus decurtatus** (Cope)
Rare. Several specimens have been taken in the desert foothills and desert. A nocturnal snake.
10. Western Faded Snake **Arizona elegans occidentalis** Blanchard
Moderately rare from the ocean to the desert. Crepuscular.
11. San Diegan Gopher Snake **Pituophis catenifer annectens** (Baird and Girard)
Very common from the ocean to the desert foothills. The most beneficial of our snakes and likewise the most common.
12. California King Snake **Lampropeltis californiae** (Blainville)
Moderately common from the ocean to the desert foothills.
13. Boyle's King Snake **Lampropeltis getulus boylii** (Baird and Girard)
Common from the ocean to the desert.
14. Coral King Snake **Lampropeltis multicincta** (Yarrow)
Rare in the mountains. The most brilliantly colored of our local species.
15. Long-nosed Snake **Rhinocheilus lecontei** Baird and Girard
Moderately common from the ocean to the desert. Crepuscular.
16. Shovel-nosed Ground Snake **Sonora occipitalis** (Hallowell)
Rather rare on the desert. Nocturnal. Prefers sandy areas.
17. Spotted Night Snake **Hypsiglena ochrorhynchus** Cope
Moderately rare from the ocean to the desert. Nocturnal. Usually taken in rocky situations.
18. Pacific Garter Snake **Thamnophis sirtalis infernalis** (Blainville)
Several specimens have been taken in the northern section of the county along the river banks.

19. California Garter Snake **Thamnophis ordinoides hammondii** (Kennicott)
Very common from the ocean to the mountains especially about streams and ponds.
20. Mountain Garter Snake **Thamnophis ordinoides elegans** (Baird and Girard)
Several specimens have been taken on Laguna Mountain and at Jacumba.
21. California Tantilla **Tantilla eiseni** Stejneger
Rare from the ocean to the desert foothills. A burrowing snake.
22. California Lyre Snake **Trimorphodon vandenburghi** Klauber
Rare from the ocean to the desert foothills. Nocturnal. Usually taken in rocky areas.
23. Sidewinder **Crotalus cerastes** Hallowell
Moderately common in the desert. Crepuscular. Sometimes called Horned Rattlesnake.
24. Red Diamond Rattlesnake **Crotalus ruber** (Cope)
Common from the ocean to the desert foothills especially in cactus and among boulders. The largest of our local rattlers.
25. Bleached Rattlesnake **Crotalus confluentus mitchellii** (Cope)
Moderately common from the foothills to the desert in rocky areas or chaparral.
26. Pacific Rattlesnake **Crotalus confluentus oreganus** (Holbrook)
Common from the ocean to the desert in fields, brush or rocks.

E. TORTOISES AND TURTLES

1. Pacific Mud Turtle **Clemmys marmorata** (Baird and Girard)
Moderately rare in streams and ponds.
2. Pacific Green Turtle **Chelonia agassizii** Bocourt
Occasional in the bay and on the coast.
3. Pacific Leather-back Turtle **Dermochelys schlegelii** (Garman)
One was secured off Pt. Loma many years ago.

SPECIES REPORTED FROM AREAS CLOSELY ADJACENT TO SAN DIEGO COUNTY

AA. NEWTS AND SALAMANDERS

1. Garden Salamander **Batrachoseps attenuatus major** (Camp)
Has been reported from Riverside County.

BB. FROGS AND TOADS

1. Great Plains Toad **Bufo cognatus** Say
Has been reported from Brawley and Fish Springs, Imperial County and may occur in the northeast corner of our County.
2. Rocky Mountain Toad **Bufo woodhousii** Girard
Has been taken at Harper Well, Imperial County, eleven miles east of the San Diego County line.

3. Leopard Frog **Rana pipiens** Schreber
Has been reported from Dixieland, Imperial County.

CC. LIZARDS

1. Ocellated Sand Lizard **Uma notata** Baird
A desert species found in the sand hills of Imperial County which may be expected within our eastern borders. Occurs at least as far west as Coyote Wells.
2. Striped Scaly Lizard **Sceloporus rufidorsum** Yarrow
A Lower California species which has been found somewhat north of Ensenada.

DD. SNAKES

1. Pacific Rubber Snake **Charina bottae** (Blainville)
A specimen taken near Idyllwild, Riverside County, indicates that this species may be found on one of our own mountain peaks.
2. Desert Gopher Snake **Pituophis catenifer deserticola** Stejneger
Common in Imperial Valley and almost certain to occur in northeastern San Diego County.
3. Striped Ground Snake **Sonora semiannulata episcopa** (Kennicott)
Not uncommon in Imperial Valley and may be expected in northeastern San Diego County.
4. Banded Burrowing Snake **Chilomeniscus cinctus** Cope
A desert species which has been found in Imperial County.
5. Marcy's Garter Snake **Thamnophis marcianus** (Baird and Girard)
A specimen has been taken as near as Holtville, Imperial County.
6. Desert Diamond Rattlesnake **Crotalus atrox** Baird and Girard
Has been taken as far west as Seeley, Imperial County, and may occur in northeastern San Diego County.

EE. TORTOISES AND TURTLES

1. Desert Tortoise **Gopherus agassizii** (Cooper)
Not uncommon in Imperial County and may occur in eastern San Diego County.
2. Pacific Loggerhead Turtle **Caretta olivacea** (Eschscholtz)
May visit our coast.

Note—Rattlesnakes are the only dangerously venomous snakes found in California. Most other snakes are beneficial to agriculture (by their destruction of harmful rodents) and should be protected.

The Zoological Society of San Diego will appreciate donations of live amphibians and reptiles from San Diego County or contiguous areas. Such specimens are not only useful for our exhibits and for scientific study but likewise enable us to secure by exchange specimens from other districts.

**RECENT WORKS OF INTEREST
IN THE STUDY OF THE
HERPETOLOGY OF SAN DIEGO COUNTY**

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